

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON ISTANBUL

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CY

SUBJECT:CYPRUS SITUATION: PRESS BRIEFING JULY 2

FOLLOWING IS EXCERPT NOON PRESS BRIEFING JULY 2 PERTAINING
TO CYPRUS SITUATION:

QUOTE: Q: DOES THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAVE ANY
COMMENT ON THE NEW TENSIONS THAT SEEM TO HAVE DEVELOPED
ON CYPRUS?

A: THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF INCREASED TENSION ON CYPRUS
OVER THE REPORTED EXPULSION OF A NUMBER OF GREEK CYPRIOTS
FROM THE TURKISH AREA. AND WE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THESE
DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY. THESE REPORTS OF THIS FORCED
TRANSFER OF FAMILIES FROM ONE AREA TO ANOTHER IS A MATTER
OF CONCERN TO US. FRANKLY, WE ARE NOW SEEKING TO SORT
OUT THE FACTS WHICH ARE IN DISPUTE. SO I THINK IT IS
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PROBABLY BEST FOR US TO CONFINE OUR COMMENTS AT THIS

TIME TO REITERATING U.S. OPPOSITION TO ALL UNILATERAL ACTIONS.

Q: WOULD THIS INCLUDE THE ALLEGED HOLDING OF A NUMBER OF TURKISH CYPRIOTS WHO WERE ATTEMPTING TO HEAD NORTH TO TURKISH-OCCUPIED AREAS, AND ALLEGED BEATINGS AND SHOOTINGS,

WOUNDING, ETC.?

A: IT WOULD INCLUDE ANY ACTION THAT COMPLICATES THE SETTLEMENT. WE STILL THINK THE RESOLUTION OF ISSUES ON CYPRUS CAN ONLY BE OBTAINED THROUGH A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES. THAT IS WHY WE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS IN VIENNA.

Q: IN VIEW OF THESE ACTIONS, DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT STILL HAVE HOPES THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WILL REVERSE ITS POSITION ON AID TO TURKEY?

A: I DON'T KNOW ABOUT "HOPE". BUT WE CERTAINLY BELIEVE THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD DO THAT.

Q: EVEN IN VIEW OF THESE INCIDENTS?

A: YES. UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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